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EXAMINER

TRAN, THAI Q

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2616

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32

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/610,380

Applicant(s)

WYERMAN, BARRY R.

Examiner

Thai Tran

Art Unit

2615

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 June 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 4-10 and 15-47 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 4-10 and 15-46 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 47 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 09/337,253.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 29.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on June 03, 2004 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 4-10 and 15-46 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a

Art Unit: 2615

later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

4. Claims 4-5, 7-10, 15-24, 26-27, 30-32, 40-43, and 45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Aramaki et al (EP 0 833 337 A2) in view of Sonobe (U.S. Patent No. 5,404,520).

Regarding claim 4, Aramaki et al, as discussed in the last Final Office Action, discloses a recording and/or reproducing apparatus (Fig. 3) for recording and/or editing content on a recording medium, comprising:

a recording controller (col. 16, lines 47-55) to record manufacturer information to support a manufacturer's specific function, wherein the manufacturer information comprises an identification information of the manufacturer of a recording apparatus that recorded or modified the content of the recording medium different from the identification information prior to the recording or the modification (col. 16, lines 47-55 and col. 31, lines 7-25). However, Aramaki et al does not specifically disclose the newly added limitation a last address of manufacturer information for the recording and/or reproducing apparatus to identify the last address of the manufacturer information.

Sonobe teaches that a code representing a data end (called end of file or EOF) in file is written along with the file for identifying the end of the file. See col. 2, lines 7-28 and col. 10, lines 33-38.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the EOF as taught by Sonobe into Aramaki et al's

Art Unit: 2615

system in order to facilitate the recording/reproducing information on/from the recording medium.

Regarding claim 5, Aramaki et al also discloses the claimed wherein the manufacturer information further comprises an identification information of a product that modified the content of the recording medium (col. 16, lines 47-55).

Regarding claim 7, Aramaki et al, as discussed in the last Final Office Action, discloses a recording apparatus (Fig. 3) to record content on a recording medium, comprising:

a device (col. 16, lines 47-55 and col. 31, lines 7-25) to record a manufacturer identification information of the recording apparatus on the recording medium in response to the recording apparatus modifying the content, wherein the manufacturer information comprises an identification information of the manufacturer of the recording apparatus that recorded or modified the content of the recording medium different from the identification information prior to the recording or the modification. However, Aramaki et al does not specifically disclose the newly added limitation a last address of manufacturer information for the recording and/or reproducing apparatus to identify the last address of the manufacturer information.

Sonobe teaches that a code representing a data end (called end of file or EOF) in file is written along with the file for identifying the end of the file. See col. 2, lines 7-28 and col. 10, lines 33-38.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the EOF as taught by Sonobe into Aramaki et al's

Art Unit: 2615

system in order to facilitate the recording/reproducing information on/from the recording medium.

Regarding claim 8, Aramaki et al, as discussed in the last Final Office Action, discloses a reproducing apparatus (Fig. 3) for reproducing content, including audio, video, and/or information data, from a rewritable recording medium, comprising:

a reproducing controller (system controller 11 of Fig. 3, col. 9, lines 38-46 and col. 16, lines 47-55) to reproduce the content, formatted information for the content and manufacturer information to support a manufacturer's specific function,

wherein the manufacturer information comprises an identification information of the manufacturer or a recording apparatus that recorded or modified the content of the recording medium different from the identification information prior to the recording or the modification (col. 16, lines 47-55 and col. 31, lines 7-25). However, Aramaki et al does not specifically disclose the newly added limitation a last address of manufacturer information for the recording and/or reproducing apparatus to identify the last address of the manufacturer information.

Sonobe teaches that a code representing a data end (called end of file or EOF) in file is written along with the file for identifying the end of the file. See col. 2, lines 7-28 and col. 10, lines 33-38.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the EOF as taught by Sonobe into Aramaki et al's

Art Unit: 2615

system in order to facilitate the recording/reproducing information on/from the recording medium.

Regarding claim 9, Aramaki et al discloses the claimed wherein the manufacturer information further comprises a product identification information of the recording apparatus that modified the content of the recording medium (col. 16, lines 47-55).

Regarding claim 10, Aramaki et al, as discussed in the last Final Office Action, discloses a reproducing apparatus (Fig. 3) to reproduce content and information on a recording medium, comprising:

a device (col. 16, lines 47-55 and col. 31, lines 7-25) to check an identification information of a manufacturer and an identification information in the information recorded on the recording medium to determine a manufacturer that recorded or modified the content on the recording medium different from the identification information prior to the recording or the modification. However, Aramaki et al does not specifically discloses the newly added limitation a last address of manufacturer information for the recording and/or reproducing apparatus to identify the last address of the manufacturer information.

Sonobe teaches that a code representing a data end (called end of file or EOF) in file is written along with the file for identifying the end of the file. See col. 2, lines 7-28 and col. 10, lines 33-38.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the EOF as taught by Sonobe into Aramaki et al's

Art Unit: 2615

system in order to facilitate the recording/reproducing information on/from the recording medium.

Regarding claim 15, Aramaki et al discloses the claimed wherein the device comprises:

a coder (col. 10, lines 34-39) to compression-code an A/V signal according to a predetermined compression scheme;

a signal processor (col. 10, lines 43-50) to modulate the compression-coded A/V signal;

a radio frequency amplifier (col. 9, lines 25-32) to convert the modulated signal into a radio frequency signal;

an optical pickup (col. 10, lines 51-58) to record the radio frequency signal as the manufacturer identification information on the recording medium;

a servo unit (col. 9, lines 33-37) to control servo of the optical pickup based upon read signals from the radio frequency amplifier; and

a system controller (system controller 11 of Fig. 3, col. 9, lines 38-46) to control the coder, the signal processor, the optical pickup, and the servo unit.

Regarding claim 16, Aramaki et al discloses the claimed wherein the device records a product information code indicating a product model of the recording apparatus that modified the content of the recording medium on the recording medium (col. 16, lines 47-55).

Regarding claim 17, Aramaki et al discloses the claimed wherein the device records an operation code indicating information on an operation

Art Unit: 2615

performed by the recording apparatus other than reproduction on the content on the recording medium (col. 16, lines 47-55).

Regarding claim 18, Aramaki et al discloses the claimed wherein the operation code information is compatible for a plurality of different manufacturers (col. 16, lines 47-55).

Regarding claim 19, Aramaki et al discloses the claimed wherein the device records a manufacturer information item specific to the manufacturer, and a manufacturer code to indicate the manufacturer of the manufacturer information item (col. 16, lines 47-55).

Regarding claim 20, Aramaki et al discloses the claimed wherein the device records a manufacturer information item specific to the manufacturer, a manufacturer code to indicate the manufacturer of the recording apparatus of the manufacturer information item, and a product code to indicate a product model of the recording apparatus of the manufacturer information item (col. 16, lines 47-55).

Regarding claim 21, Aramaki et al discloses the claimed wherein the device records time information indicating a time when the manufacturer information item is recorded on the recording medium (col. 16, lines 47-55).

Regarding claim 22, Aramaki et al discloses the claimed wherein the device records the manufacturer codes and the product codes at a beginning part of the manufacturer information item (col. 16, lines 47-55).

Art Unit: 2615

Regarding claim 23, Aramaki et al discloses the claimed wherein the device records a search pointer indicating a starting address of the manufacturer information item (col. 16, lines 47-55).

Regarding claim 24, Aramaki et al discloses the claimed wherein the device updates a number of total manufacturer information items recorded on the recording medium (col. 16, lines 47-55).

Regarding claim 26, Aramaki et al discloses the claimed wherein the device records a last address of manufacturer information which includes the manufacturer identification information and the product information code (col. 16, lines 47-55).

Regarding claim 27, Aramaki et al discloses the claimed wherein the device records a last address of manufacturer information which includes the manufacturer identification information, the product code, and the operation code (col. 16, lines 47-55).

Regarding claim 30, Aramaki et al discloses the claimed wherein the manufacturer information further comprises a manufacturer information item specific for the manufacturer of the recording apparatus (col. 16, lines 47-55), wherein the recorder updates only the manufacturer information item and does not update other manufacturer information items already recorded on the recording medium (col. 16, lines 47-55 and col. 31, lines 7-25).

Regarding claim 31, Aramaki et al, as discussed in the last Final Office Action, discloses a reproducing apparatus (Fig. 3) to reproduce content from a recording medium on which a manufacturer identification information of a

Art Unit: 2615

manufacturer of an apparatus that modified the content of the recording medium, the reproducing apparatus comprising:

an optical pickup (col. 9, lines 25-32, col. 16, lines 47-55, and col. 31, lines 7-25) to read the manufacturer identification information; and

a processor (col. 9, lines 25-32, col. 16, lines 47-55, and col. 31, lines 7-25) to reproduce manufacturer identification information of the apparatus that recorded or modified the content based upon the read manufacturer identification information different from the manufacturer identification information prior to the recording or the modification. However, Aramaki et al does not specifically disclose the newly added limitation a last address of manufacturer information for the recording and/or reproducing apparatus to identify the last address of the manufacturer information.

Sonobe teaches that a code representing a data end (called end of file or EOF) in file is written along with the file for identifying the end of the file. See col. 2, lines 7-28 and col. 10, lines 33-38.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the EOF as taught by Sonobe into Aramaki et al's system in order to facilitate the recording/reproducing information on/from the recording medium.

Regarding claim 32, Aramaki et al discloses the claimed wherein the processor comprises:

Art Unit: 2615

a radio frequency amplifier (col. 9, lines 25-32) to convert an optical signal of the read manufacturer identification information and the read content to an electrical signal and extracts a servo signal from the optical signal;

a signal processor (col. 9, lines 52-57) to perform error correction coding and demodulate the optical signal;

a decoder (col. 9, lines 52-57) to decode the error corrected demodulated signal;

a servo unit (col. 9, lines 33-37) to control servo of the optical pickup based upon the servo signal; and

a system controller (system controller 11 of Fig. 3, col. 9, lines 38-46) to control the radio frequency amplifier, the signal processor, the decoder, and the servo unit.

Regarding claim 40, Aramaki et al discloses the claimed wherein the identification information of the manufacturer corresponds to the manufacturer of the recording apparatus that last modified the content of the recording medium (col. 16, lines 47-55).

Regarding claim 41, Aramaki et al discloses the claimed wherein the identification information of the manufacturer corresponds to the manufacturer of the recording apparatus that last modified the content of the recording medium (col. 16, lines 47-55).

Regarding claim 42, Aramaki et al discloses the claimed wherein the identification information of the manufacturer corresponds to the manufacturer of

Art Unit: 2615

the recording apparatus that last modified the content of the recording medium (col. 16, lines 47-55).

Regarding claim 43, Aramaki et al discloses the claimed wherein the identification information of the manufacturer corresponds to the manufacturer of the recording apparatus that last modified the content of the recording medium (col. 16, lines 47-55).

Regarding claim 45, Aramaki et al discloses the claimed wherein the identification information of the manufacturer corresponds to the manufacturer of the recording apparatus that last modified the content of the recording medium (col. 16, lines 47-55).

5. Claims 6 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Aramaki et al (EP 0 833 337 A2) in view of Sonobe (U.S. Patent No. 5,404,520) as applied to claims 4 and 24 above, and further in view of Buchanan (US 5,758,355).

Regarding claim 6, the combination of Aramaki et al and Sonobe discloses all the claimed limitations as discussed in claim 4 above except for providing wherein the manufacturer information has a maximum number of manufacturer information items, and if the number of manufacturer information items exceeds the maximum number of manufacturer information items, then the recording controller deletes an oldest one of the manufacturer information items.

Buchanan teaches a synchronization of server database with client database using distribution tables having maximum number of items and if the

Art Unit: 2615

number of items exceeds the maximum number of items, then the recording controller deletes an oldest one of the items (col. 11, lines 50-67).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the capability of adding and deleting the distribution tables as taught by Buchanan into Aramaki et al's system in order to facilitate the managing the information recorded in the recording medium.

Claim 25 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claim 6 above.

6. Claims 28-29, 33-39, 44, and 46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Aramaki et al (EP 0 833 337 A2) in view of Sonobe (U.S. Patent No. 5,404,520) and further in view of Ohno et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,038,366).

Regarding claim 28, Aramaki et al, as discussed in the last Final Office Action, discloses a recording and/or reproducing apparatus (Fig. 3) to record and/or reproduce content on a recording medium, comprising:

a recorder (col. 16, lines 47-55 and col. 31, lines 7-25) to record on the recording medium a manufacturer identification information of the recording and/or reproducing apparatus indicating a manufacturer of the recording and/or reproducing apparatus as the one to record or modify the content of the recording medium different from the identification information prior to the recording or the modification. However, Aramaki et al does not specifically disclose a reproducer to read the manufacturer identification information, determine whether the content is effective based upon whether the read manufacturer identification information matches that of the recording and/or

Art Unit: 2615

reproducing apparatus, and read the content if the content is effective and the newly added limitation a last address of manufacturer information for the recording and/or reproducing apparatus to identify the last address of the manufacturer information.

Sonobe teaches that a code representing a data end (called end of file or EOF) in file is written along with the file for identifying the end of the file. See col. 2, lines 7-28 and col. 10, lines 33-38.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the EOF as taught by Sonobe into Aramaki et al's system in order to facilitate the recording/reproducing information on/from the recording medium.

The combination of Aramaki et al and Sonobe does not specifically disclose a reproducer to read the manufacturer identification information, determine whether the content is effective based upon whether the read manufacturer identification information matches that of the recording and/or reproducing apparatus, and read the content if the content is effective.

Ohno et al teaches a magnetic recording/reproducing apparatus for search programs recorded on magnetic tape having a procedure to read the manufacturer identification information, determine whether the content is effective based upon whether the read manufacturer identification information matches that of the recording and/or reproducing apparatus, and read the content if the content is effective (col. 6, lines 25-30) to facilitate search of programs recorded on magnetic tape, indexing of heading portion of the

Art Unit: 2615

programs and display of teletext or closed caption and the like without essentially incurring additional manufacturing cost of the apparatus (col. 2, lines 14-20).

It would also have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the capabilities of comparing the VTR manufacture number data recorded on the tape and VTR manufacture number stored in the library memory and controlling the magnetic recording/reproducing apparatus based on the comparing result as taught by Ohno et al into Aramaki et al's system in order to facilitate search of programs recorded on recording medium, indexing of heading portion of the programs and display of teletext or closed caption and the like without essentially incurring additional manufacturing cost of the apparatus.

Regarding claim 29, Ohno et al discloses the claimed wherein if the reproducer determines that the read manufacturer identification information does not match that of the recording and reproducing apparatus, the reproducer reads the content of the recording medium to determine whether the content is effective (col. 6, lines 25-30).

Regarding claim 33, the combination of Aramaki et al and Sonobe discloses all the claimed limitations as discussed in claim 31 above except for providing the claimed wherein the recording medium has a product information code indicating a product model of the apparatus that modified the content of the recording medium on the recording medium, the optical pickup reads the product model, and the processor determines whether to read the content based upon the read product model.

Art Unit: 2615

Ohno et al teaches a magnetic recording/reproducing apparatus for search programs recorded on magnetic tape having a procedure to read the manufacturer identification information, determine whether the content is effective based upon whether the read manufacturer identification information matches that of the recording and/or reproducing apparatus, and read the content if the content is effective (col. 6, lines 25-30) to facilitate search of programs recorded on magnetic tape, indexing of heading portion of the programs and display of teletext or closed caption and the like without essentially incurring additional manufacturing cost of the apparatus (col. 2, lines 14-20).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the capabilities of comparing the VTR manufacture number data recorded on the tape and VTR manufacture number stored in the library memory and controlling the magnetic recording/reproducing apparatus based on the comparing result as taught by Ohno et al into Aramaki et al's system in order to facilitate search of programs recorded on recording medium, indexing of heading portion of the programs and display of teletext or closed caption and the like without essentially incurring additional manufacturing cost of the apparatus.

Regarding claim 34, Ohno et al also discloses the claimed wherein the recording medium has an operation code indicating information on an operation performed by the recording apparatus that modified the content of the recording medium, the optical pickup reads the operation code and the processor determines how to modify the content based upon the read operation code (col.

Art Unit: 2615

6, lines 25-30) to facilitate search of programs recorded on magnetic tape, indexing of heading portion of the programs and display of teletext or closed caption and the like without essentially incurring additional manufacturing cost of the apparatus (col. 2, lines 14-20).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the capabilities of comparing the VTR manufacture number data recorded on the tape and VTR manufacture number stored in the library memory and controlling the magnetic recording/reproducing apparatus based on the comparing result as taught by Ohno et al into Aramaki et al's system in order to facilitate search of programs recorded on recording medium, indexing of heading portion of the programs and display of teletext or closed caption and the like without essentially incurring additional manufacturing cost of the apparatus.

Regarding claim 35, Ohno et al further discloses the claimed wherein the recording medium has a manufacturer information item specific to the manufacturer, and a manufacturer code to indicate the manufacturer of the manufacturer information item, wherein the optical pickup reads the manufacturer code and the processor determines whether to read the manufacturer information item if the manufacturer code matches a code relating to the manufacturer of the reproducing apparatus (col. 6, lines 25-30).

Regarding claim 36, Ohno et al discloses the claimed wherein the recording medium has a manufacturer information item specific to the manufacturer, a manufacturer code to indicate the manufacturer of the recording

Art Unit: 2615

apparatus of the manufacturer information item, and a product code to indicate a product model of the recording apparatus of the manufacturer information item, wherein the optical pickup reads the manufacturer code and the product code, and the processor determines whether to read the manufacturer information item if the manufacturer code matches a code relating to the manufacturer of the reproducing apparatus and the product code matches a code relating to the product model of the reproducing apparatus (col. 6, lines 25-30).

Regarding claim 37, Aramaki et al also discloses the claimed wherein the recording medium has time information indicating a time when the manufacturer information item is recorded on the recording medium, the optical pickup reads the time information and the processor processes the read time information (col. 16, lines 47-55).

Regarding claim 38, Aramaki et al discloses the claimed wherein the recording medium has a search pointer indicating a starting address of the manufacturer information item, the optical pickup reads the search pointer and then reads the manufacturer information item at the starting address thereof (col. 16, lines 47-55).

Regarding claim 39, the combination of Aramaki et al and Sonobe discloses all the claimed limitations as discussed in claim 31 above except for providing wherein the processor determines whether the read manufacturer identification information matches a code of a current reproducing apparatus relating to a manufacturer of the current reproducing apparatus, controls the optical pickup to read the content if there is a match for reproduction of the

Art Unit: 2615

content, controls the optical pickup to read the content if there is not the match for analyzing the content, and reproduces the content if there is the match or if the analysis indicates the content is reproducible by the current reproducing apparatus.

Ohno et al also teaches a magnetic recording/reproducing apparatus having processor to determine whether the read manufacturer identification information matches a code of a current reproducing apparatus relating to a manufacturer of the current reproducing apparatus, to control the optical pickup to read the content if there is a match for reproduction of the content, to control the optical pickup to read the content if there is not the match for analyzing the content, and to reproduce the content if there is the match or if the analysis indicates the content is reproducible by the current reproducing apparatus (col. 6, lines 25-30) to facilitate search of programs recorded on magnetic tape, indexing of heading portion of the programs and display of teletext or closed caption and the like without essentially incurring additional manufacturing cost of the apparatus (col. 2, lines 14-20).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the capabilities of comparing the VTR manufacture number data recorded on the tape and VTR manufacture number stored in the library memory and controlling the magnetic recording/reproducing apparatus based on the comparing result as taught by Ohno et al into Aramaki et al's system in order to facilitate search of programs recorded on recording medium, indexing of heading portion of the programs and display of teletext or closed

Art Unit: 2615

caption and the like without essentially incurring additional manufacturing cost of the apparatus.

Regarding claim 44, Aramaki et al discloses the claimed wherein the manufacturer identification information corresponds to the manufacturer of the recording apparatus that last modified the content of the recording medium (col. 16, lines 47-55).

Regarding claim 46, the combination of Aramaki et al and Sonobe discloses all the claimed limitations as discussed in claimed 31 above and Aramaki et al additionally discloses the claimed that the manufacturer information item is updated by analyzing the content of the manufacturer information item corresponding to the modified content to determine whether the manufacturer information item for the manufacturer is effective to perform the recording, the modification, and/or reproduction (col. 31, lines 7-25). However, Aramaki et al does not specifically discloses the claimed wherein when the identification information of the recording apparatus which modified the recording medium is the same as an identification information for the current recording apparatus and the editing is complete.

Ohno et al also teaches a magnetic recording/reproducing apparatus having processor to determine whether the read manufacturer identification information matches a code of a current reproducing apparatus relating to a manufacturer of the current reproducing apparatus and to control the editing process of the magnetic recording/reproducing apparatus (col. 6, lines 25-30) to facilitate search of programs recorded on magnetic tape, indexing of heading

Art Unit: 2615

portion of the programs and display of teletext or closed caption and the like without essentially incurring additional manufacturing cost of the apparatus (col. 2, lines 14-20).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the capabilities of comparing the VTR manufacture number data recorded on the tape and VTR manufacture number stored in the library memory and controlling the magnetic recording/reproducing apparatus based on the comparing result as taught by Ohno et al into Aramaki et al's system in order to facilitate search of programs recorded on recording medium, indexing of heading portion of the programs and display of teletext or closed caption and the like without essentially incurring additional manufacturing cost of the apparatus.

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claim 47 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

8. Most of the references cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed May 14, 2004 because such references have been considered in previous Office Actions.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thai Tran whose telephone number is (703)

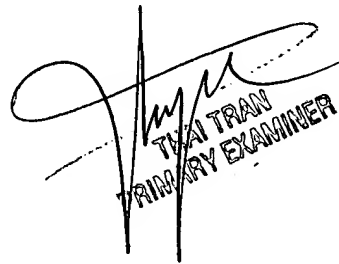
Art Unit: 2615

305-4725. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. to Friday, 8:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

TTQ



THAI TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER